

**Title : IMPROVED FIRST AID STRIPS  
CALLED : FIRST AID HATS / FIRST AID CAPS**

**APPLICANT AND INVENTOR :**

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**Background of the invention :**

An improved and new design for the first aid strips is the purpose of this patent application. A first aid strip normally consists of , a piece of sterile nonadherent guaze pad , of an appropriate size and shape, to which is attached on one side, a strip of adhesive tape, which is for the purpose of attaching the, guaze pad to the body.

The new design that I wish to create is to, make a pouch/ well/ depression/ hollow on the side of the guaze pad , that comes in contact with the skin . The purpose of this , pouch/ well / is to, be able to deposit a small amount of, medicated cream/ jel, such that when this new first aid strip design is attached to the skin, the cream/jel does not get squished out, which almost always happens, when the current design of , first aid strips is used together with some cream/ jel.

### Background of the Invention / Design

**This invention** relates to creation of new and **improved first aid strips** for the , purpose of, being used on different skin ailments, such as corns , warts , small localised burns , skin areas , cuts and bruises, raised moles or any other localised skin condition which would need or benefit from, being used in conjunction with some medicated ointment / cream / jel .

It is known in a **prior art** that, a first aid strip comprises of a flat piece of, sterile non adherent guaze pad, over which a strip of adhesive tape is provided to enable the , guaze pad to be attached the skin .

The drawback of this known art, of the first aid strip, is that , if medicine for the skin condition, is applied in the form of an ointment/cream or jel to the wound or skin condition, and a first aid strip, in its present design is, attached over it , the ointment/ cream or jel gets squished out, and as a result, a very negligble amount or none of the cream / ointment, or jel is left behind. In addition, if there is, some amount of, localisd bulge or swelling, associated, with the wound / skin condition, such as following a deep cut, or when there is a wart raised mole, the cream / jel / ointment gets squished out even further.

### **Brief Summary of the Invention / Design**

It is the object of this new invention to provide an improved first aid strip to, over-come the drawbacks of the prior art of the first aid strip.

The present invention provides an improved first aid strip , comprising a strip of guaze pad, having a cavity / pouch / well / depression / hollow , on the surface of the guaze pad, facing the skin, that is the side of pad, that lies adjacent to the skin. The purpose of this pouch, hollow / well / depression , is to be able to deposit a small amount of, medicated cream / jel , in the form of , cream / jel / ointment . There are many people , who would like to be able to use some sort of cream / jel / ointment , in association with the first aid strip, but this does not seem to stay, where it has been put, and gets squished out, when a first aid strip is placed over it.

I propose, at the present time, five ways by which such embodiments may be created , on the guaze pad , on the side that lies adjacent to the skin.

- 1 . The **first method** of creating this design is to add an additional , one or two, layers of guaze pad over, the guaze pad attached to the first aid strip. However the layers 2 and 3 , have a window cut out from around the center leaving a margin of , about 1.5 mm all around . The depth of the pouch so created, should preferably not exceed , **1.5-2.00 mm** . This determination can be made later, depending on the aethetics of the resulting product.

2 . The **second method** of creating the new design is , to place a ring of an inert material, for e.g cork, plastic, latex, in between two layers of guaze pad, such that when the, two layers of guaze pad and the ring are pressed together, a small pouch is created as a result. The ring is sealed between the two layers of guaze pad in such a manner that the ring , does not come in contact with the skin . The depth of the ring is approx **1.50 -1.95 mm**. The dimensions of the ring are approximately, 1.5 mm less than the dimensions of the guaze pad. This way there is a small margin of guaze pad, outside the borders of the ring Which when pressed against the layer of guaze pad below, seals the ring, between the two layers of guaze pad.

3 . The **third method** of creating this new design is to, creating an outpouching of the entire, first aid strip together with the guaze pad, such that it bulges , outwards from one side. As this does not maintain the aethetics of the first aid strip, this is not a very desirable technique of creating this design.

4 . The **fourth method** of creating this design is to incorporate, the depression, cavity or pouch in a **single, thick enough** piece of guaze pad, attached to the first aid strip adhesive tape, by scooping out from around the central area of the guaze pad. The thickness of guaze pad, is approx **2.5-2.75 mm**. The pouch so created would have a margin of guaze pad, of about 2.00 mm. all around and the depth of the pouch so created should preferably not exceed **1.50 - 1.95 mm**. The actual dimensions may be appropriately modified later .

5 . The **fifth possible** method of creating a pouch is by , placing a ring made of a light weight material, such as cork , on the surface of the guaze pad, or around the borders of the guaze pad, in such a manner that, it is first to come contact with the skin, before any other part of the first aid strip. The ring is attached to the guaze pad, by any appropriate adhesive . The ring would have a **depth** of approx **2.00 - 2.25 mm**, depending on whether the ring in on or around the guaze pad, and is of the size and shape of the guaze pad. The actual depth of the ring can be increased or decreased later, if needed . depending on the requirements of the manufacturer. The surface of the ring that comes in contact with skin is also, provided with some adhesiveness, such that when placed on the skin, it sticks to it. The ring would be placed, either on the guaze pad, **flush** with its margins , **or all around** the margins. margins of guaze pad , thereby enclosing the borders of the guaze pad in the ring.

Though any of the above methods can be used to create the new design, the actual technique used, would depend on the, aesthetics, costs, and the preferences, of the manufacturer of this product. All the techniques mentioned above, can be used to create a pouch or well in any shape of the, of the first aid strip, be it circular, elliptical, square, rectangular.

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To,

**United States Patent and Trademark Office,****Assistant Secretary and Commissioner****of Patents and Trademarks**

Crystal Plaza 3,

Room 2CO2

Washington DC, 20231

Sub : Application for a , **DESIGN PATENT**, on the product **First Aid Strip** , also

Known commonly as , Band Aid, which is a Registered Trademark.

**FIRST DESIGN PATENT : TITLE OF PATENT : FIRST AID HATS/ FIRST AID CAPS**

Dear Sir ,

This covering letter is for the purpose of, general information, regarding the request for, registering, for the purpose of patenting, **a new design**, for the **first aid strip**. This product is commonly known the world over as , Band Aid ( Registered Trademark )

By this new design, which to the best of my knowledge, does not as yet exist on the market, I wish to improve the utility of this commonly used product.

**The design improvement** , I wish to make is to, create a pouch, depression, hollow, a well, or whatever it might be termed , so as to enable to deposit a small amount of , any variety of cream, that would enable the same to remain within the, first aid strip, and not get squished-out, when the strip is attached to the skin. This is especially true, not only on skin surfaces all over the body , but also especially on parts of the body that are constantly active, such as the, fingers , the knee, the ankle. This pouch/well/ depression/ also provides a small amount of space into which, any small injury, such as a deep cut, which might be associated with a small amount of localised swelling, can expand into. This pouch / well / depression / also can accomodate, the bumps, associated with say a wart, corn, boil, ruptured blister, localised burn/ localised patch of dry skin, in such a manner that the first aid strip fits onto each of these conditions, in the form of a cap.

This new design, can be created, in several ways, which I would like to patent, in the form of, **process patent**, if permissable .

1. **First Method** : This pouch can be created by adding, say another 1-2 layers of guaze pad, to the to the first aid strip. The lowermost layer of, guaze pad, will be complete, but the layers 2 and 3 will have a window cut out from the centre. Thus in effect there will be ring of guaze all around, made up of layers 2 and 3 of guaze pad, whose outer margins are flush with the margins of layer 1 of guaze pad. This ring can be made of alternative materials such as, **cork** or **rubber** The dimensions of this ring are, approx **2.00 - 2.5 mm wide and 1.5-1.95 mm deep**. This in effect creates a small pouch. The dimensions of this ring of guaze can be appropriately modified later. The rubber for the ring, may be similar to that used in rubber bands. The ring has some adhesiveness provided, so that it sticks to the skin, when placed on it.

(See Appendix B for diagrammatic representation for this).

3. The **third technique** of creating the pouch / well / depression is to, create a bulge in the first aid strip, in the area which includes the guaze pad in such a manner that the bulge so created includes not only the guaze pad, but also the adhesive strip overlying it . This method however does not produce an aesthetically pleasing product. ( See **Appendix C** ) .



4. The **fourth method** of creating this pouch / well/depression /cavity is, to take a **single piece** of guaze pad, of appropriate thickness, of say approx 2.5-2.75 mm and to scoop out a cavity from around the center leaving a margin of, 2.00 mm of guaze pad all around. It is this single piece of guaze pad, with a cavity in its central area that is attached to the, adhesive strip that comes with the first aid strip. The depth of the pouch created should be approximately 1.5 mm -1.95 mm . The determinations of , thickness of guaze pad and depth of pouch can be determined between, the designer and the manufacturer.

( See Appendix D for a diagramatic representation )

5. The **fifth method** of creating this new design is to , place a ring made up of **cork, rubber, or guaze**, surrounding the guaze pad. The rubber of the ring may be similar to that, used in rubber bands. The ring is, placed on the first aid strip in such a manner that it is in contact with the adhesive strip, by an appropriate adhesive, and the surface of the ring that comes in contact with the skin, is also provided, with some adhesive capability so that when placed on the skin, it sticks to the skin . The presence of this ring, **around** the guaze pad, provides a small pouch / well , into which a small amount of medicated cream or ointment can be deposited. The size and shape of the ring approximates the size and shape of the guaze pad, but the ring is a little bigger in size, as it **surrounds the guaze pad**, all around its margins.

The dimensions of the ring are as follows.

**Width** of the ring :            2.00 - 2.50 mm ( approx )

**Depth** of the ring :            2.00 - 2.25 mm ( approx )

( See Appendix E for a diagramatic representation )

There may be other methods, by which, it may possible to create this pouch , well / depression, and the above mentioned methods are not a complete and exhaustive list of all the methods that may be used to make it . But the end result would produce the, improvement , invented / designed by me . The design to be used, to make this product can be determined later, by the designer and the manufacturer.

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**TITLE OF PATENT : GUAZE HATS / GUAZE CAPS :**

In order to prevent the possibility of this design being imitated on a piece of flat sterile/ nonsterile, guaze or pad, I would like to, **patent an extension of this design** to a product that I call, **guaze hats/ guaze caps**. These hats/caps, are basically a pouch / pregnant-dimple / well /depression, created on a flat piece of guaze, not a part of first aid strip, ( which has an adhesive tape attached to the guaze). Thus this **independent piece of guaze hat / cap**, can be used with different wounds/ skin condition with an appropriate size of adhesive tape. At the present time, it is possible to get on the market, independent pieces of sterile/ non-sterile, **guaze pad**, each in its own separate sealed pack. However this is just a plain, flat guaze pad, without a pouch.

These, **Guaze hats / Guaze caps**, can also be created in a manner similar to that which is used to make the, **First aid hats / First aid caps**, as mentioned in the possible five techniques, with appropriate modifications, for factoring the absence of the adhesive strip.

However, this is not an exhaustive list of the ways in which this, well / pouch / depression / can be made. There may be other ways by which it may be possible create a pouch well / depression, in the flat piece of guaze pad, and the end result would be to create a pouch or well , that does not exist in the products of similar nature, available on the market today.

#### **DRAWINGS :**

#### **INDEX :**

- 1 . **APPENDIX A** : First method of creating the new design
- 2 . **APPENDIX B** : Second method of creating the new design
- 3 . **APPENDIX C** : Third method of creating the new design
- 4 . **APPENDIX D** : Fourth method of creating the new design
- 5 . **APPENDIX E** : Fifth method of creating the new design.